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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

January 11, 2005

Applicant(s): David Thomas BRITTON et al.

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MERGING ITEMS TO BE SORTED

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT CANCELLING CLAIMS

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee in the above-identified application, kindly enter the following:

(Please see following pages.)